की रिपोर्ट और आई० एम० जी० की सिफारिशों को राष्ट्रीय आपदा राहत समिति के समक्ष रखा जायेगा।

Programmes for the development of KBK districts of Orissa

612. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have discontinued the programmes launched for the development of Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput (KBK) districts in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to revive the programmes in those districts; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The Long Term Action Plan for development of the undivided districts of Koraput, Bolangir, and Kalahandi (KBK) in Orissa was launched in 1995. However, in order to focus on high priority schemes which would deal with the basic problems of these districts, the Government of Orissa was asked to prepare a revised plan. The Revised Long Term Action Plan (1998-99 to 2006-07) consists of Central plan and centrally Sponsored Schemes in various sectors, namely agriculture, horticulture, watershed development, afforestation, rural employment, irrigation, health, drinking water, rural connectivity.

Leasing of Transponders by ISRO

613. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many transponders are available with ISRO;

(b) how many of them are used by Government agencies;

(c) how many of them have been leased out to private agencies; and

(d) what is the annual rental charged by ISRO for leasing transponders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) At present Eighty-nine (89) transponders are avaiable with ISRO. Out of these, sixtysix (66) are being currently used and twentythree (23) trnasponders avaiable on Indian National Satellite-1D (INSAT-1D) and INSAT-2A satellites are in an inclined orbit and hence are not used.

(b) Sixtytwo (62) transponders are used by Government Agencies.

(c) About four (4) transponders have been leased by Department of Telecommunications (DOT) to private agencies.

(d) The rental charged by DOT is between Rs. 1.65 Crores to Rs. 2.75 Crores per annum per transponders depending on the power.

Tapping of Rain Water is an additional source

614. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ever conducted survey to assess the quantum of rain water which remains untapped;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite the country having rivers flowing throughout the year, large sections of people and cultivable land remain thirsty; and

(c) if so, what concrete measures are proposed to be taken to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) As per assessment made by Central Water Commission, the country receives annual precipitation of 4000 billion cubic metres including snowfall. Of this, the seasonal rainfall (June to September) is of the order of 3000 billion cubic metres. Out of this, the average annual flow available in rivers is around

1869 billion cubic metres. Owing to the topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilisable water resources is assessed at 1122 billion cubic metres, consisting of 690 billion cubic metres of surface water and 432 billion cubic metres from the annual replenishable ground water resources.

(b) Full utilisation of rain water is not possible due to evaporation and vegetation losses and for allowing certain amount of water to flow in the river for maintaining the river regime. The present utilisation of water (Surface & Ground) is about 605 billion cubic metres comprising 70% of surface water and 30% of ground water. Further, only some snowfed river have significant flow during the non-monsoon season when the remaining rivers have either no flow or insignificant flow. However, as a result of various measures taken by the Government since Indepdence for creation of irrigation potential, the irrigation potential created till the and of Eighth Five Year Plan is 89.44 million hectares as against ultimate irrigation potential of 113.5 million hectares in the country.

(c) In the successive Five Year Plans emphasis was laid on creation of storages across rivers in order to utilise the rain water for irrigation and other purposes. As a result of which more than 3000 dams have been constructed and many are under construction and investigation. The storage capacity in various completed reservoirs is about 177 billion cubic metres. Besides dams to create an additional live storage of about 75.42 billion cubic metres are now under various stages of construction. In addition about 132.3 billion cubic metres of live storage capacity is likely to be added through major and medium schemes under consideration. The National Water Development Agency is also carrying out studies of the National Perspective Plan for water resources development which inter-alia envisages transferring water from surplus to water-short basins by inter-linking of rivers and constructing reservoirs on potential sites. It is estimated that addition 240 billion cubic metres of water will be available under National Perspective Plan for use through inter-basin transfers.

Digging of wells in Gujarat by CGWB

615. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAIPATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether digging of wells has been undertaken in Gujarat by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) the places selected for drilling and the criterion laid down by the Board for drilling bore holes; and

(d) the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Location-wise details of walls drilled by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) in Gujarat during last two years are given in the statement-I (*See* below).

(c) The Central Ground Water Board has fixed a tentative target of drilling 79 bore holes in Gujarat during 1998-99 as per details given in Statement-II (*See* below). Actual locations of wells depend on the requests of the State Government, results of the studies of remote sensing, geophysical survey and hydrogeological mapping. The criteria for selection of locations for drilling of bore holes by the Central Ground Water Board include the need for ascertaining the availability, quality and quantity of ground water, requests of the State Governments for ground water development, results of remote sensing, geo-physical surveys and hydrogeological mapping.

(d) Drilling of bore holes is a continuous process and is undertaken by the Central Ground Water Board under its normal programme of work on annual basis in different parts of the country. The programme of drilling in 1998-99 has already commanced in April, 1998.